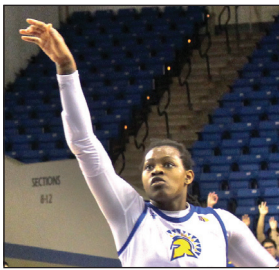




Opinion

Criticizing America does not appeal to undecided voters

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Sports

Spartans lose nail-biter at home

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A&E

'Art After Dark' displays beauty of diversity in exhibits

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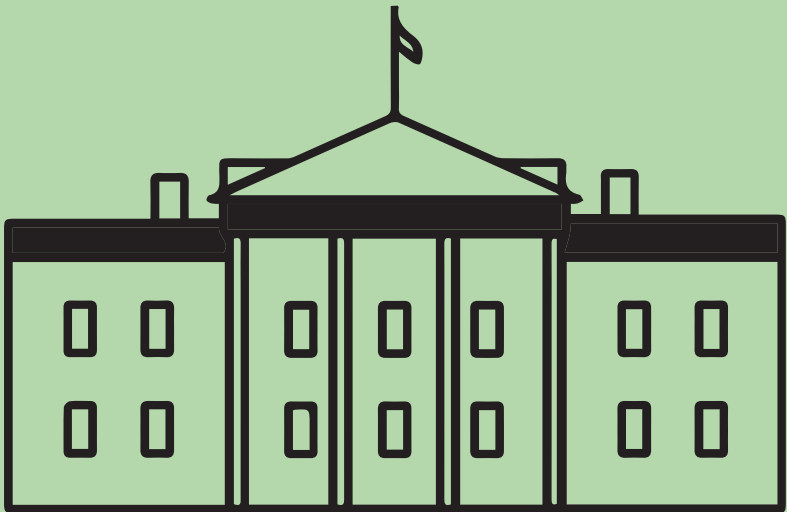
Tuesday,
Feb. 18, 2020

Spartan Daily

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Volume 154
No. 11



Legal challenges to public charge rule lead to SCOTUS

August 2019: White House announces public charge rule changes to deny green cards to immigrants likely to be dependent on long-term federal assistance.

October 2019: Temporary injunctions issued by federal judges in three different states for administration of President Donald Trump to cease enforcing public charge rule.

January 2020: Trump asks the U.S. Supreme Court to intervene. A 5-4 ruling overturns injunction to cease public charge ruling.

SOURCES: WHITE HOUSE, NPR AND VOX;
INFOGRAPHIC BY MAURICIO LA PLANTE AND MARCI SUELA

Residency rule to take effect

Students react to imminent restrictions

By Andrew Glenn
STAFF WRITER

Pell Grants and other forms of federal education assistance are excluded from a policy to deny permanent residency in the United States to immigrants, if they are determined to be dependent on federal assistance, following a ruling by the Supreme Court on Jan. 23.

A 5-4 ruling by the Supreme Court overturned a lower court order for President Donald Trump's administration to cease its public charge rule denying immigrants residency if they are likely to use long-term federal assistance.

According to SCOTUSblog, in August 2019, the Department of Homeland Security defined public charge to apply to immigrants in need of public cash assistance for income maintenance or

“

Most people, like my family members that have immigrated here, have real Social Security numbers so they contributed immensely to the taxes in both federal and state. So I think it's bullshit to remove people's rights to receive public assistance.

Jesus
SJSU student who asked to be anonymous

institutionalized long-term care at the government's expense.

As for undocumented students at San Jose State, the rule has no effect on their status at the university as it is only a federal restriction.

"If they're undocumented, this wouldn't fit anyway as this is for people applying for legal status," political science professor James Brent said.

"Certainly anybody who is a university student is using public resources simply by definition. But that doesn't really matter because . . . Federal government doesn't care if you use state resources or whether you go to a state university."

However, some SJSU students felt concerned about

DENIALS | Page 2

Demographic stats predict next election

By Joclyn Aguirre
STAFF WRITER

The 2020 elections are coming up and San Jose State students in majors other than political science say they are uninformed about 2020 presidential election candidates running against President Donald Trump.

"I've never taken the time to look into the presidency . . . I'm just busy with school or work," said environmental science senior Jazmine Ledesma-Torres.



Public health science senior Donovan Tamayo said he lost political interest after President Trump's inauguration, because no matter what, "He's still in power and nothing is going to be changed."

According to the United States Census Bureau, 46.1% of voters from ages 18-29 voted during the 2016 elections and the highest youth voting rate since the 1992 presidential election, when 52% of youth voted.

Not only was there a gap in voters' ages, but racial and ethnic background played a part in voter participation. The Census Bureau reported that 65.3% of registered voters, who identified as white, 59.6% of voters who identified as non-Hispanic Black, 49.3% of voters who

ELECTION | Page 2

CAMPUS IMAGE

Traveling musician drops anchor



MAURICIO LA PLANTE | SPARTAN DAILY

New York-based musician Shawn Soderberg strums his guitar in front of the Cesar Chavez Memorial Arch. The guitarist said he came to San Jose from upstate New York to recover from substance abuse and apply to San Jose State's music school. He said he is currently living in a shelter and trying to find housing.

A.S. BOARD OF DIRECTORS // ELECTIONS 2020



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Student Union Room 3A

02/28, FRIDAY, 1-3PM
Student Union Room 3B

For more information, visit sjsu.edu/as/vote.

DENIALS

Continued from page 1

the potential effects the public charge rule can have on them and their families. “Most people, like my family members that have immigrated here, have real Social Security numbers so they contributed immensely to the taxes in both federal and state,” said Jesus, an SJSU student who agreed to be interviewed only using his first name. “So I think it’s bullshit to remove people’s rights to receive public assistance.” The Supreme Court made its ruling on whether the Trump administration could continue enforcing its public charge policy as it was being challenged in the 2nd U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals. This hold was overturned except in the state of Illinois, where the policy is enjoined in a lower court injunction. “The court actually didn’t make a stand on the public charge rule,” Brent

said. “The question was merely whether the lower court decision should stand while the appeal is going forward.” According to the U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services website, programs that the government would tie to being a public charge include Temporary Assistance for Needy Families, state and local cash assistance programs that provide benefits for income maintenance and health coverage being used for long-term institutionalized care. Federally funded programs that are exempt include educational assistance including Pell Grants, housing benefits and Medicaid not being used for long-term institutional care, according to the website. “A lot of people, mainly conservatives, don’t want to let immigrants into the country who they feel will be a drain on the country,” Brent said. “[Conservatives] want people who will be productive and have jobs.” But the White House’s policy was challenged after federal judges in

California, New York and Washington issued temporary injunctions against the public charge rule in Oct. 2019, according to NPR. An injunction is a court order requiring individuals to execute or cease a specific action, according to Cornell Law School. Critics of the public charge policy said the Trump administration presented no public safety or national security reasoning for its enforcement, according to SCOTUSblog. As of Jan. 31, the Supreme Court declared the new regulations on public charge to be temporarily withheld to prevent any widespread confusion and concern. The U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services clarified that the new rule will only apply on or after Monday. Any immigrants who have received benefits or who have applied for a green card before Monday will not be denied under the new rule. Concerns have been raised on how this could affect undocumented students on

campus as the new policy goes into effect later this month. “I was not aware of this,” said Juan, an SJSU student who agreed to be interviewed anonymously. “Honestly, the first time I heard about it, I thought it’s crazy.” In effect, the restrictions would strongly discourage those considering moving to the U.S., Brent said. “You would imagine immigrants from richer, Northern European countries are going to have an easier time being able to demonstrate they’re not going to be a public charge than a poor, agricultural worker coming up from the south,” Brent said. “So certainly, I don’t think it’s something that would be applied neutrally, or even if it is, the intent isn’t neutral and certainly will discourage people coming to the United States, which is the point.”

Follow Andrew on Twitter |
@SaviorElite10

ELECTION

Continued from page 1

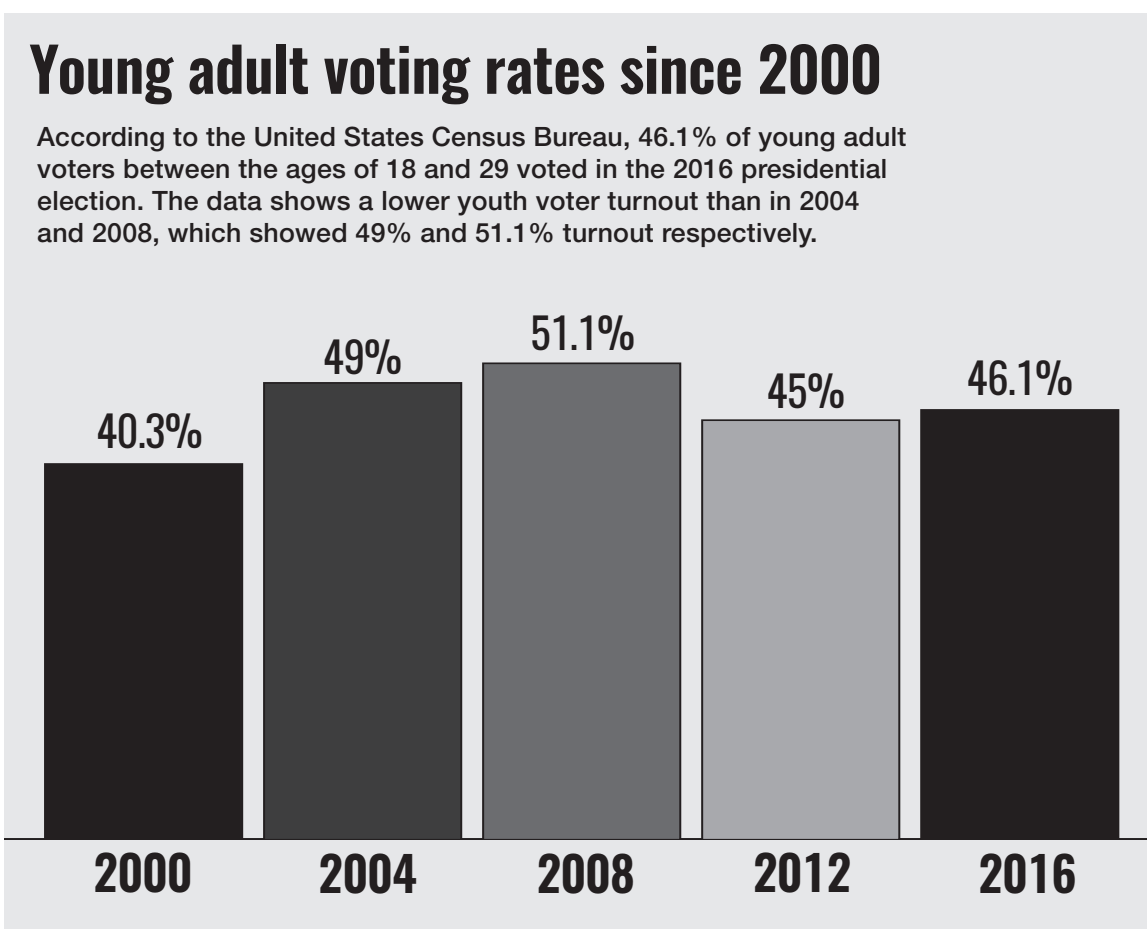
identified as other races and 47.6% of those identified as non-white Hispanic participated in the 2016 presidential election. Political science professor Matthew Record said, “It’s difficult to get yourself up to speed about candidates. If there’s reason to believe that your vote or voice won’t count, there’s that [likelihood] that people won’t vote.” Record said he is passionate about informing himself on the presidential elections and made it a point to also inform his students about policy systems that politicians talk about. For instance, Democrats arguing about the health care system is a discussion Record would have with his students to not only educate them on politicians in the race, but to actually look at what issues the candidates are supporting. “The more the government knows that the people are not paying attention, the more dangerous our government can get, so just vote,” Record said. Political science freshman Nina Dismond said if it wasn’t for her classes, she probably wouldn’t be that up to date with the elections. “I think for sure because my classes, I have to stay up to date about the elections and it’s also interesting to me, like, I look into it on my own time with CNN,” said Dismond. Dismond said she thinks the

“

I’ve never taken the time to look into the presidency . . . I’m just busy with school or work.

Jazmine Ledesma-Torres
environmental science senior

right to vote and being informed about the elections is important because “you have the power to make change in this world and why wouldn’t you.” This shouldn’t be a problem for millennials because there’s always the internet to fall back on with informing oneself about politics, said political science professor James Brent. “Of course, one of the problems is what a reliable source of news is, when you’ve got the president shouting that this is fake news,” Brent said. Politics isn’t a pleasant topic, Brent said, therefore people often give up on informing themselves on politics in the present climate. Sociology professor William Armaline said that any type of media outlet is going to gloss over the details about the election polls. “If you spend 20 minutes on Twitter, you’re going to see adnauseum being talked about, clips from MSNBC, CNN or people just straight up lying about results, playing them down, refusing to mention their



name,” Armaline said. He went on to say that news is so easily digestible that people are only going to look up specific news sources that tell them what they want to hear. For example, Armaline said recent news headlines focused on the Democratic candidates who did not win, rather than the one who did. “Right before us, every private media outlet is very, very manifestly doing everything they can to silence that movement and to make certain that people

like you know nothing about it,” Armaline said. In addition, millennials are over-extended, tired, worn out and beat down. When people are under these conditions, their first priority is to not spend an extra three hours deep diving the internet, so they only come across corrupt and biased information, said Armaline. “It’s not the case that millennials are lazy or something. That’s bullshit,” Armaline said. “They don’t have the privilege that previous generations have had,

they’re out there trying to live.” He went on to say, “Your generation is already involved, we perhaps have people on this campus that are a little too late to that party and might want to start showing up pretty soon because the Super Tuesday and California primary are around the corner.”

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Crime Blotter

Stay on campus without consent
Feb. 10, 4:41 p.m.
at Hugh Gillis Hall
Adult arrest

Felony: threaten crime with intent to terrorize
Feb. 11, 1:02 a.m.
at South Garage
Adult arrest

Agency assist: domestic violence
Feb. 11, 6:35 p.m.
at Student Union
Information only

Attempted burglary-felony
Feb. 12, 8:16 a.m. at Spartan Golf Complex
Information only

Carry concealed dirk/dagger
Feb. 13, 8:41 a.m.
at Alpha Phi
Adult arrest

Deface with paint/etc.
Feb. 13, 7:51 p.m. at South Garage
Information only

Stay on campus without consent
Feb. 15, 1:44 p.m.
at Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., Library
Adult arrest

Possession other weapon on campus
Feb. 15, 8:39 p.m.
at Event Center
Adult arrest

Correction

On Thursday, Feb. 13, the Spartan Daily published a story titled, “Alleged obstruction: CSU faces unfair practice charge” which should have stated that the chair of the SJSU Academic Senate referred the memo to the Professional Standards Committee of the Academic Senate.

The Spartan Daily regrets this error.

Clarification

On Thursday, Feb. 13, the Spartan Daily published a story titled, “Alleged obstruction: CSU faces unfair practice charge” in which the fact that San Jose State rejected the unfair practice charge should have been attributed to Christian Jochim, Chair of the CFA Faculty Rights Committee.



ABOUT

The Spartan Daily prides itself on being the San Jose State community’s top news source. New issues are published every Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday throughout the academic year and online content updated daily.

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Reader feedback may be submitted as letters to the editor or online comments.

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EDITORIAL POLICY
Columns are the opinion of individual writers and not that of the Spartan Daily. Editorials reflect the majority opinion of the Editorial Board, which is made up of student editors.

Bashing America won't get you votes



Chris Core
OPINION EDITOR

“America first!”

It is impossible to ever tune into one of President Donald Trump’s speeches and not hear these two words belted from his mouth.

The phrase is almost always followed by cheers and applause from the crowds at Trump’s rallies because these Americans feel that Democrats do not love their beloved red, white and blue the way that Trump does.

Although this “America first” mentality seems to isolate the U.S., it gets patriots around the country fired up about a president who sure does seem to love America.

Moderates, Republicans and baby boomers don't want to hear about making the U.S. into the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics of America.

This fiery passion is exactly what the winner of the Democratic primary needs to display when going one-on-one against Trump: a passion that presidential candidate Bernie Sanders obviously does not possess.

As much as Democrats hate to admit it, this race is going to be a lot closer than they hope.

Trump’s approval rating is currently sitting at 49% according to data collection and statistical website Statista.

It is alarming for those opposed to the president considering former president Barack Obama’s approval was around 45% during the third year of his first term.

You might not see this support reflected walking around a college campus in the heart of Silicon Valley, but Americans sure do love this man.

Trump’s support base is so large that he received 31,000 votes in this month’s Iowa caucuses and around 130,000 votes in New Hampshire’s caucuses.

Trump’s success shows him surpassing Obama’s and former president George Bush’s numbers in Iowa and nearly doubling the numbers in New Hampshire according to Politico.

There are a variety of

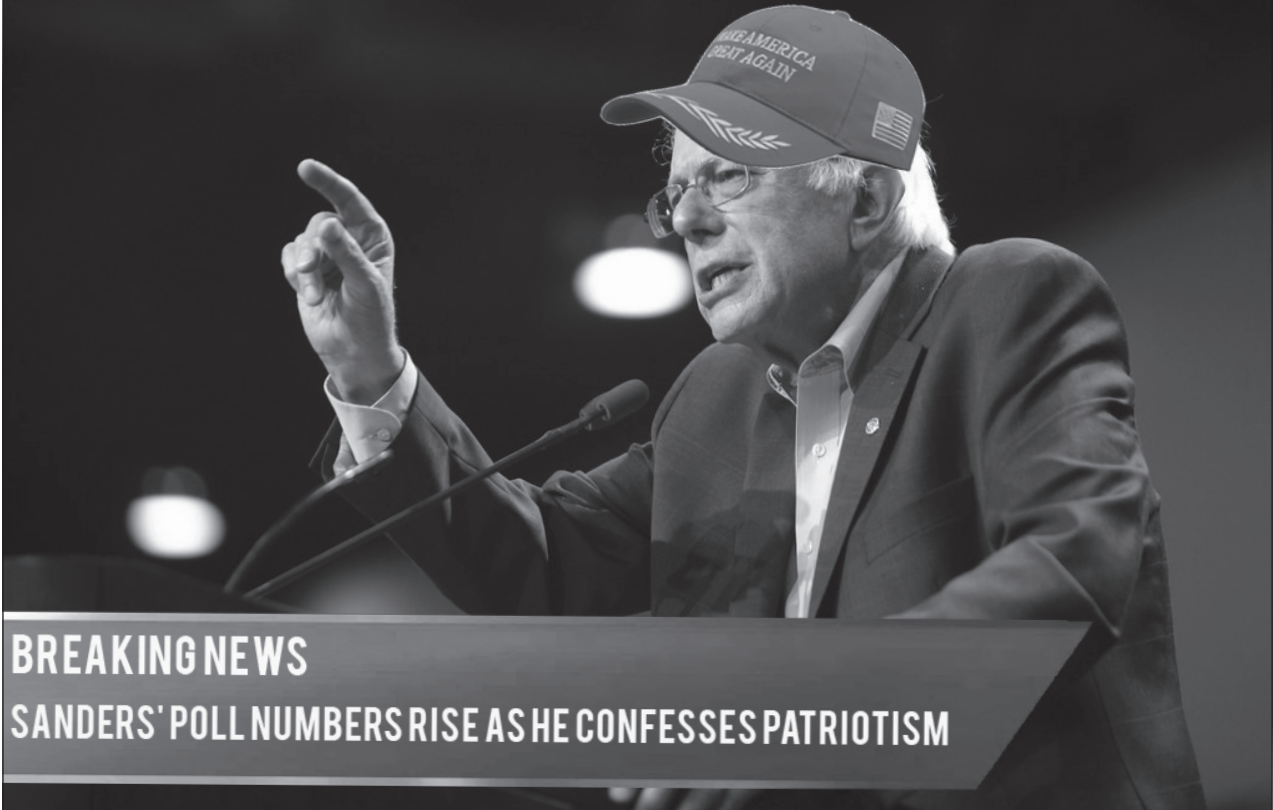


PHOTO ILLUSTRATION BY CHRIS CORE; PUBLIC DOMAIN PHOTO FROM WIKIMEDIA COMMONS

sure about their opinion.

That leaves a small 29% who think criticizing the country is in fact patriotic.

I am quick to identify myself in that minority, however, I am not trying to win an election for president of the United States.

When there are so many Americans swaying between who to vote for, it is not the most welcoming thing to bash the country they live in, which is why conservatives don't seem to be scared of “the Bern.”

As of now, Sanders is the front-runner in the primary. Although his appeal is massive among democratic voters, his socialist beliefs could discourage potential supporters who don't want such radial changes.

Right-wingers absolutely love to jump in their time machines and bring up an interview from 1985 where Sanders said, “It’s funny. Sometimes American

journalists talk about how bad a country is because people are lining up for food. That is a good thing! In other countries, people don't line up for food. The rich get the food and the poor starve to death.”

Although Trump’s love for Russian president Vladimir Putin has not scared off socialism haters, Sanders’ obsession for socialism really irks people a whole lot.

Moderates, Republicans and baby boomers don't want to hear about making the U.S. into the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics of America.

The possibility that Trump would make Sanders look like an unpatriotic fool on the debate stage is extremely high as Trump excels at making his love for the country a talking point in itself.

Although I refuse to endorse any one candidate

to go against Trump, there sure is someone running whose nationalism causes conservative quivers: South Bend Indiana Mayor Pete Buttigieg.

Despite the fact that Buttigieg’s politics could still be categorized as radical, it’s impossible to argue that he doesn’t love America even more than Trump.

Not only has Buttigieg served as an military intelligence officer in Afghanistan, but he is also mayor of a major city in one of the most conservative states in the union.

Comparatively, Trump dodged the Vietnam War draft five times according to Business Insider and had never served in an elected position before winning the presidency.

Yes, Buttigieg is openly gay, which may frighten away a lot of homophobic Americans, but that didn’t stop him

from receiving a standing ovation at a Fox News town hall in May 2019.

Yes, attendees at a Fox News event stood up and clapped for a gay Democrat – incredible.

Buttigieg is not a perfect candidate, but to beat Trump’s rhetoric you need to show that you love this country more than he ever could.

Democrats need to learn from former presidential candidate Hillary Clinton’s mistake when she called Trump supporters “deplorable.”

You need those deplorable votes to win an election.

But, the Republican Party is the party of the elephant and elephants never forget.

Follow Chris on Twitter | @ChrisCore24

Coronavirus craze is irrational



Shruthi Lakshmanan
STAFF WRITER

Leave it up to Americans to spread chaos within the country for a rare illness only affecting 15 people in the states.

COVID-19, which originated in Wuhan, China, is commonly known as the coronavirus, has ignited a lot of attention because of its widespread outbreak in China.

This manic manifestation is worrisome because people are unaware that their flu symptoms can be a lot more serious than Wuhan’s infamous malady.

Influenza is far more of a threat to residents of the United States, and should be treated as such.

Symptoms as common as a fever and sore throat are dismissed as something ordinary and treatable, especially in comparison to COVID-19, which causes fever, shortness of breath and pneumonia.

The harsh reality is that people are more likely to face the risk of complications or



ILLUSTRATION BY NATHAN DOYLE

This manic manifestation is worrisome because people are unaware that their flu symptoms can be a lot more serious than Wuhan's infamous malady.

Because the outbreak is mostly concentrated in Asia, Americans are not familiar with the disease.

The lack of control and understanding about the virus has caused hysteria to spread.

untreatable infections from the flu.

That’s right. If you see someone coughing, start hoping for COVID-19, because the flu may be your worst enemy yet.

According to the John Hopkins Center for Systems Science and Engineering’s COVID-19 mapping report, there has been a whopping 69,288 cases diagnosed since Dec. 2019.

The majority of these cases have been from China.

Meanwhile, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention have reported between 26 million and 36 million influenza cases in America from Oct. 2019 to Feb. 8.

If this is not enough evidence that the flu poses a larger threat, then hopefully death is a persuading factor.

While COVID-19 has killed 1,870 people, all but five in China, the flu has killed between 14,000 and 36,000 within the same time frame across the world, according to the Center for Disease Control and Prevention.

Is this an astounding difference? Yes, but Americans seem to be blind to scientific evidence.

What a big surprise.

For those who are still not convinced, you can be assured that unless you are 60 years old or above with a weakened immune system and have had physical contact

with someone who has COVID-19, you are most likely bed-ridden from a severe cold or flu.

A recent CNBC report showed that those under 39 who were diagnosed with COVID-19 only made up 10% of the nearly 70,000 affected.

China’s Health Committee reports that most of those who were diagnosed also suffer pre-existing conditions that made them more susceptible.

On top of this, it seems to be that children are narrowly escaping this affliction, but the same cannot be said for those

in America riddled with the flu.

In the CDC’s list of flu indicators, children are expected to face a plethora of symptoms that can prove more detrimental to their growth as opposed to grown adults.

Nevertheless, this distraction from a serious illness is only exacerbated by American news broadcasts that infiltrate minds with hypochondriac panic.

Instead of focusing on the flu and its damaging effects, the media is focused on scaring people about a foreign incubated virus.

When America’s trusted media sources provide a bandwagon platform, people delude themselves into furthering this national fear of international exposure.

It’s important that we realize our fears are media inherited, but our illnesses are from environmental exposure.

Instead of worrying about the slim chance of COVID-19, let’s start getting flu shots.

Follow Shruthi on Instagram | @shruthilakshmanan

Spartans rally back, crumble late

By Kellen Concentine
SENIOR STAFF WRITER

The San Jose State women’s basketball team dropped its fourth game in a row after an uphill battle resulting in a 67-66 loss to Air Force.

“It’s great ‘cause we’re competing,” head coach Jamie Craighead said. “We’re in every game and we have a chance to win but it’s so hard to come up short.”

The Spartans (15-10, 9-5 MWC) have lost each of their last three games by less than five points.

Junior forward Tyra Whitehead had 18 points

and 12 rebounds while pending off several double teams. But it was not enough to lead SJSU to victory. Junior guard Megan Anderson was 3-7 behind the 3-point line and finished with 15 points.

“I’m not going to throw any of my players under the bus. When it’s that close, it’s on me,” Craighead said.

The Falcons (6-19, 4-10 MWC) got off to a hot start. They opened the game with a 9-2 run, hitting shots behind the arc and grabbing early momentum.

Sophomore guard Ayzhiana Basallo hit a buzzer-beating jumper to take an 18-17 lead,

helping the Spartans respond with a 9-0 run to end the first quarter.

In the second quarter, Air Force held SJSU to a mere 5 points while scoring 21. Air Force sophomore forward Riley Snyder knocked down three 3-pointers, pushing the Falcons halftime lead to 15.

The Spartans were reeling but halftime seemed to be what they needed to get back into the game.

“We needed to find a breakthrough,” said sophomore guard Raziya Potter. “I thought we started off a little slow today and we needed to turn it around. We had a lot of fight and intensity in that third quarter.”

The Spartans made a defensive stand holding Air Force to 23% from the field during the third quarter and not allowing a single 3-pointer.

Basallo and Whitehead both started to heat up on the other end, combining for 13 points to begin the half.

“Players came out and gave a great effort in the third quarter,” said Craighead. “Lots of energy. Raziya was a big part of that in the third quarter. Defensively she sparked us.”

To end the game, the

FALCONS

67

SPARTANS

66



KELLEN CONCENTINE | SPARTAN DAILY

Head coach Jamie Craighead paces on the sideline as SJSU makes the game close.



KELLEN CONCENTINE | SPARTAN DAILY

Junior forward Tyra Whitehead steps up to the line to shoot a free throw. She ended the game with 18 points.

Falcons defense swarmed Basallo as soon as she crossed the half-court line. She had two turnovers, including a crucial one in the final minute of the game.

seven of her 18 in the fourth quarter.

Air Force negated Whitehead’s big game as two players combined for 54 of their 67 total points. The other six players who

we’re really competitive, but we have to find another level,” Craighead said.

Craighead said that many of the players were too dejected from losing the nail-biter at home to even comment after the game.

SJSU will try to end the losing streak on the road against Boise State Wednesday.

“

I’m not going to throw any of my players under the bus. When it’s that close, it’s on me.

Jamie Craighead
head coach

The Spartan offense ran through Whitehead to close out the game. She grabbed five of her 12 rebounds and scored

played for Air Force only made six total field goals in the game.

“I know that this team has great potential and

UPCOMING HOME GAME

Colorado State vs. SJSU
Feb. 22 @ 2 p.m.

Follow the Spartan Daily on Twitter
@SpartanDaily

ANALYSIS

SJSU lacks spirit

By Joclyn Aguirre
STAFF WRITER

When it comes to supporting San Jose State sports, students seem to lack team spirit.

Although it appears that a majority of supporters are freshman living on campus, the novelty of going to games wears off fast.

Biological science freshman Merissa Barela said, “I wanted to get more involved around campus and get more involved with the school spirit.”

Barela currently lives on campus and said she is considering attending games because of the several flyers posted around her building.

honestly why I don’t care to go anymore.”

In addition to not being very well informed about events or not having time to go, the stigma of SJSU sports not being “good enough” has stopped students from caring at all.

The culture of football is more present in campus culture than any other sport. Waking up early, enjoying a tailgate party and pre-gaming with friends until 30 minutes before the game starts and then going to the stadium to support your team seems appealing to even the average student.

Unfortunately, SJSU banned tailgating on campus three years ago so now

thing that comes to mind is athletics. Clearly these schools are in a different league than SJSU, but one reason why prominent universities receive more fan support is because more money is being invested into their sports department, making them look better.

A lot of students from other sports also showed up to the Spartan Recreation Center to show support to the swim team at their senior meet.

“Every meet we’ve had more and more people showing up,” junior swimmer Megan Green said. “Again, having the pool on the main campus is really cool for us because it’s easy for people to pop in and watch our meets.”

It’s important to highlight that the women’s basketball team has made an incredible improvement from last season. The team is currently in third place in the Mountain West Conference with a 15-10 overall record this season.

“Team spirit varies here and there. Last year we haven’t gotten any support from the student body, you’d just see the same group of football players who some of us are close to,” women’s basketball sophomore guard Raziya Potter said. “This year we’ve gradually been getting support since we’ve been winning.”

With improvements on the court this season, more students may be coming to the games according to ticket sales, but the arena still feels empty.

I think the stigma of SJSU sports not being “good enough” has stopped students from attending school events.

Unfortunately, the same couldn’t be said for freshman who don’t live on campus.

“I’m not too aware of what is going on because I don’t live on campus,” business freshman Andres Sepulveda said. “I live down the street, so it’s easy for me to be away from campus.”

Business senior Franky Trejo, who only lived on campus his freshman year, said, “At first, my freshman year, I would go to the football games, but seeing our team get beat almost every game is

students are more likely to show up to the first big game against the rival California State University, Fresno and the homecoming game.

Football on college campuses runs the show, there’s no question about it. For example, schools such as Louisiana State University and the University of Southern California, always have their stadiums filled with supporters.

It could all be because of the fact that when most people think of LSU or USC, the first

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Global Spartan Month

Celebrating SJSU international education and cultural exchange

Events, workshops and contests open to all SJSU students, faculty and staff the month of March.
Become a #GlobalSpartan!

Visit global.sjsu.edu/GSM for a full list of events you won't want to miss.

SJSU International Students @sjsuinternational

Passionate actors explore taboo topics

By Gia Pham & Shruthi Lakshmanan
STAFF WRITERS

“Ugh, ugh! Oh my god, don’t stop!”

We didn’t stop.

No one in the room stopped.

You could hear laughter roaring from the crowd as San Jose State public relations freshman Kendria Cruz dramatically moans as part of her monologue, “The Woman Who Loved to Make Vaginas Happy,” in the “The Vagina Monologues.”

Liridona Leti, “The Vagina Monologues” encompasses female characters from all walks of life to discuss their experiences as women in a patriarchal society.

The performances sporadically and unusually switch from being light-hearted to intense, all while maintaining an unmoderated rhythm.

This type of raw and unfiltered narrative opened up a conversation with the audience about sex and the awkward, yet extremely alarming experiences many women face.

Sitting among women provided us a sense of comfort in the theater, we also felt that the lack of male attendance and investment in female issues was alarming.

Earlier monologues exposed the fact that society puts male pleasure first and female pleasure last.

Other monologues talked about sex topics including pubic hair and sexual identities.

The more intense monologues focused on the fact that sexual harassment and domestic abuse toward women is an inhumane and barbaric problem that consistently happens in society.

harassment experience, we too began to evaluate our own experiences with being sexually preyed upon throughout our lives.

We began to feel unified and less alone in our discomfort, yet simultaneously angry at the world, demanding change.

Each monologue that amusingly confessed the awkwardness of female sexuality gave us an equally emotionally intense monologue and comedic delivery that brought us to the verge of tears.

“The Vagina Monologues” evinced the crude reality of how innocence can be exploited.

play review

“The Vagina Monologues”

Rating:
★★★★☆

Directed by:
Liridona Leti

Showings:
Feb. 13, 14, 15

Genre:
Episodic

We began to feel unified and less alone, yet simultaneously angry at the world, demanding change.

The episodic play, hosted by the Gender Equity Center, captivated an audience of about 100 people in the Student Union Theater on Thursday. It was a fundraising opportunity for the nonprofit organization Asian Americans for Community Involvement and the support services center Young Women’s Christian Association Rape Crisis Center.

Written in the late 1990s by feminist activist Eve Ensler and adapted by SJSU chemistry graduate student and director

“I think it’s fascinating, and also, in a way, a little bit sad and frustrating that issues that were affecting women throughout that time are still affecting us now,” business senior Floriberta Sario said before attending the show in support of her friends.

Though all the actresses were from various backgrounds to allude to the diversity of women characters in the play, it was a bit concerning that the audience wasn’t all too gender diverse, as the male-to-female ratio was extremely uneven.

One monologue followed a young girl’s diary, including entries that ranged from her masturbating to screaming at her mom to getting raped by her father’s friend as a child.

The polarizing entries took us on an emotional roller coaster with a speed that stripped us naked and forced us to face the bare realities of our gender.

We felt absurdity, pain, terror, but most importantly, sympathy.

“Things that happen to you that are traumatic, they stay with you and they carry with you, and they shape your experiences,” Charlotte Theriault, actress and forensic chemistry senior, said.

Just as Theriault related to her fictional character through shared bisexual orientation and sexual

So, when one of the actresses started walking around the theater urging audience members to yell “cunt” as a way to destigmatize the word, it was no doubt that we felt waves of embarrassment and disturbance clamor into the pits of our stomachs.

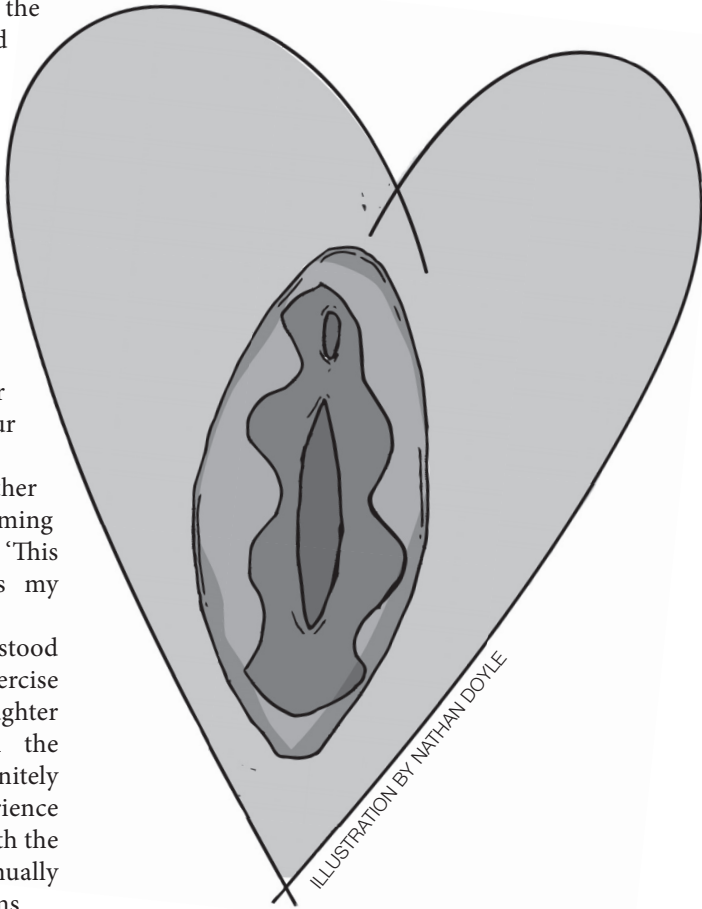
“Cunt is just another word and reclaiming it is saying, like, ‘This is ours’ or ‘This is my word,’” Leti said.

Though we understood the purpose of this exercise and smiled at the laughter it stirred up from the audience, it was definitely a startling experience sitting in a theater with the word “cunt” continually shocking our eardrums.

With a trail of “pussy pops” and chocolate shaped vaginas leading into the theater, “The Vagina Monologues” was a hilariously uncomfortable yet socially powerful play performed by an extremely talented and diverse set of actresses.

The powerful performances and moving monologues left us wishing it wasn’t over but also searching for the nearest person to confide in about our similar experiences.

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CLASSIFIEDS

CROSSWORD PUZZLE

1	2	3	4		5	6	7	8	9		10	11	12	13
14					15						16			
17					18						19			
20					21						22			
23				24					25	26				
				27				28					29	30
31	32	33				34						35		
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39					40						41			
42				43						44				
		45							46			47	48	49
50	51					52	53					54		
55						56						57		
58						59						60		
61						62						63		

ACROSS

1. Tablet
5. Platform
10. Numbskull
14. Pearly-shelled mussel
15. Vagabonds
16. Nights before
17. Nonflowering
19. Vice President
20. Air movement device
21. Fish respiratory organs
22. Apologetic
23. Schemes
25. More or less
27. Venomous snake
28. Besmirching
31. Constructed
34. Broom
35. Caviar
36. Backside
37. Simpleton
38. Lairs
39. Zero
40. Lustrous
41. Anagram of “Debit”
42. Skimming
44. Tin
45. Hangman’s knot

46. A small decorative object
50. Provide with a permanent fund
52. Fancy
54. Nigerian tribesman
55. College girl
56. Breathing apparatus
58. Ringle
59. Angry
60. Sharpen
61. Being
62. Runs in neutral
63. Not more

DOWN

1. Light gusts of air
2. Dental filling
3. Kings of the jungle
4. Not high
5. Prawn
6. Road or bridge fees
7. Cain’s brother
8. Flimsy
9. S
10. Gobble up
11. Overly fatigued
12. Equal
13. Catch a glimpse of
18. Excrete
22. A cleansing agent
24. Story
26. Horn sound
28. Big band music
29. Not a single one
30. A feat
31. Prohibits
32. Relating to urine
33. A New York NHL team
34. “Pig shepherd”
37. Not that
38. Eat
40. Winter precipitation
41. Din
43. Noggin
44. Major towns
46. Hill
47. Flexible
48. Double-reed instruments
49. Wrongs
50. Behold, in old Rome
51. French for “We”
53. A Freudian stage
56. 7 in Roman numerals
57. Hole-making tool

SUDOKU PUZZLE

Complete the grid so that every row, column and 3x3 box contains every digit from 1 to 9 inclusively.

		9			3			2
	6				9	7		1
			5	4				
		5		1			4	7
			9		7			
8	1			5		2		
				9	8			
7		3	4				9	
9			7			5		

SOLUTIONS 02/13/2020

M	E	R	G	E	S	E	W	S	C	A	R	E		
A	R	E	A	S	P	L	O	P	O	P	U	S		
I	N	E	P	T	O	K	R	A	N	A	B	S		
L	E	D	E	R	H	O	S	E	N	T	R	E		
			A	I	L				D	A	R	T		
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A	L	O	E		P	E	R	I	L	I	D	E	A	
P	E	T	R	O	L	E	U	M	E	C	L	A	T	
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G	O	N	G		E	V	E	R		D	H	O	L	E
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D	A	R	T		S	L	E	W		A	P	S	E	S

6	4	8	5	1	7	9	2	3
7	3	5	6	2	9	8	4	1
9	1	2	3	4	8	5	7	6
5	8	7	2	6	3	4	1	9
2	9	1	7	5	4	6	3	8
4	6	3	9	8	1	7	5	2
8	5	6	4	3	2	1	9	7
1	2	9	8	7	5	3	6	4
3	7	4	1	9	6	2	8	5

JOKIN’ AROUND

Why did the cross-eyed teacher lose her job?

Because she couldn’t control her pupils.

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‘Art After Dark’ glows with diversity

By **Bryanna Bartlett & Joclyn Aguirre**
STAFF WRITERS

Downtown San Jose’s art community thrived in the moonlight on Thursday with the San Jose Institute of Contemporary Art’s “Art After Dark” event.

The Institute held its monthly after-hours hang out to showcase exhibitions including “Sense of Self,” “Clive McCarthy: Electric Paintings” and “Stas Orlovski: Chimera.” From 7 p.m. to 10 p.m. The Institute opened its doors to San Jose’s community for nightlife benefits.

Membership manager Lisa Cavigliano said, “We like to put these on because daily we close at 5 p.m. Everyone who

has work or school doesn’t get the time to come by.”

Cavigliano welcomed guests through the doors and onto the wooden floors of the exhibitions. Indie and classical music played throughout the exhibition space.

“Sense of Self” was curated by Marcela Pardo Ariza, Tammy Rae Carland, Erica Deeman, Jamil Hellu and Stephanie Syjuco to explore deep connections around identity.

The exhibition’s gallery label said the art celebrates the power of photographic portraiture in order to ignite empathy and to break down barriers.

Visual artist Jamil Hellu collaborated with members of the LGBTQ+ community using portraits to explore

their histories and cultural lineage.

“It’s very eye-opening. I appreciate the beauty of it, the ability to capture a singular moment,” San Jose resident Kris Procel said.

In a darker setting, “Clive McCarthy: Electric Paintings” was an immersive installation of everchanging painterly images. The images flowed in sequence and showed brush strokes or dabs of color.

Portraits, streams of color and distorted images were visually projected from start to finish. Audience members could go back and see different images than before. Starting with blank canvases, facial portraits and color collages appeared in sped-up motion so the art looked as if it were drawing itself.

Dr. Christopher Burkett, a lecturer for San Jose State’s school of social work, attended the Institute’s “Art After Dark” as a visual artist himself.

“It’s therapeutic for me,” Burkett said. “We’re all creative people and for me, being around art or expression is motivating.”

A brown room curated by artist Erica Deeman invited visitors in with a portrait series of five African American men of different ages. Deeman said in the gallery label that the portraits aimed to question assumptions about race and how people analyze faces based on visual expectations and historic portrayals.

“For black people, the structure of being seen has always been compromised historically and in the



BRYANNA BARTLETT | SPARTAN DAILY

Artist Nicholas Douglas’ portrait series hangs on the wall of the Institute of Contemporary Art and portrays everyday people holding back parts of themselves.

present,” Deeman said in the gallery label.

Aside from the “Art After Dark” exhibitions, the Institute opened The LGBTQ Youth Space and filled the front windows of the Institute with “Chris Eckert: Art & Life.”

Eckert’s installation included two machines scanning the internet for comments about art and remarks about life. The transcriptions filled the windows with collected sentences such as “Life can truly change” and “Love is our only existential solution.”

“I appreciate the process the most . . . it may be small, whimsical remarks but ultimately it evolves into something substantial,” said Burkett.

The Institute’s exhibitions were separated through

rooms ranging with bright and dark lighting. “Clive McCarthy: Electric Paintings” and “Stas Orlovski: Chimera” only had projected lights while “Sense of Self” was vibrant in lighting.

The artwork was accompanied by gallery labels that identified the artists and described the meanings behind the art or photography.

The Institute gathered art for the exhibitions from San Francisco art galleries such as the Jessica Silverman Gallery, Catharine Clark Gallery, Anthony Meier Fine Arts, as well as San Jose’s The LGBTQ Youth Space and the artists themselves.

SJSU psychology freshman Lilliana Contreras said, “What stands out to me the most is the colors . . . It really draws me in. From the light

show to the portraits, it’s all super fascinating.”

Aside from visual art, a few poems were displayed as gallery labels.

Artist Marcela Pardo Ariza extended her “Kin” series into the “Sense of Self” exhibition.

Ariza’s poem visualized the relationship between self and community, with lines that said “It’s ageless and ageful / It’s silent but not too often / Kin is what keeps us here.”

The poetry was scattered next to the artwork. Ariza’s poem was on the wall near a large, four-portrait display of human bondage.

The Institute ended “Art After Dark” at 10 p.m., but the exhibitions will remain open daily until March 15.

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A 2019 Drag Show canvas is displayed in The LGBTQ Youth Space at the Institute of Contemporary Art.

BRICKER’S BOPS

Tame Impala stuns with nostalgic disco

By **John Bricker**
EXECUTIVE PRODUCER

Tame Impala’s fourth studio album, “The Slow Rush,” develops the synthetic soundscapes from its last album, “Currents,” in stunning songs that effortlessly blend thoughtful songwriting with disco escapism.

The album’s best tracks are multi-phase epics, changing drastically without sacrificing Parker’s distinct new songwriting style.

That description might make the album sound like a mess, but the intricate production from Kevin Parker, who writes and performs all of Tame Impala’s material, blends psychedelic rock and pop influences surprisingly well.

Parker’s one-man band gained a reputation for its transcendent and gritty rock music with 2012’s “Lonerism,” only to transform its sound into a blend of progressive rock and synth pop on “Currents.”

Now, Tame Impala has mostly replaced the complex songs of “Currents” with hypnotic grooves, steadily building toward euphoric conclusions.

“Borderline” pairs Parker’s airy falsetto vocals with a loop of gritty drums and bright synth chords, then steadily piles on flutes, bongos and distorted bass while he croons earworm after earworm.

Touches of delay on his vocals and spacey synth melodies complement his lyrics about a high that forces him to watch time pass, “caught between the tides of pain and rapture.”

While many songs on “The Slow Rush” use layered instrumentation to serve looping grooves and catchy hooks, the album’s best tracks are multi-phase epics, changing drastically without sacrificing Parker’s distinct new songwriting style.

The gorgeous mix of icy keys, rumbling bass, smooth guitar and repetitive vocals at the beginning of “Breathe Deeper” seem to forecast a predictable disco throwback.

But when the dense instrumentation on the chorus drops away and a new synth bass introduces a dramatic and fresh harmony to the track, it begins to rapidly shift, taking a detour through a burst of muffled dream pop before a climax of harsh synths, mangled

album review

“The Slow Rush”

Rating:
★★★★★

Artist:
Tame Impala

Release Date:
Feb. 14

Genre:
Alternative/Indie

bass and clean acoustic guitars.

At some points, wild instrumental and tonal changes make for a perfect marriage between music and lyrics, resulting in some of Parker’s most personal and powerful songs.

Over the somber blend of electric guitar licks, acoustic strumming, patient bass lines and heavy drums on “Posthumous Forgiveness,” Parker gives one of his most emotional performances, singing about his troubled relationship with his late father.

He laments that his father never made amends for abandoning him, singing, “You decided to take all your sorries to the grave.”

Just as the harsh chopped and looped synths on the chorus drive home the rage and confusion in the lyrics,



ILLUSTRATION BY JOHN BRICKER

the song suddenly flows into a dreamy blend of soft keys and bongos while Parker’s lyrics shift from anger to sadness. He describes missing out on the chance to talk things out with his father, and sings about playing him his songs and telling him, “You’re just a man after all.”

This gut-wrenchingly beautiful moment of longing over stunning and calm instrumentation makes “Posthumous Forgiveness” this album’s crown jewel, if not the best

Tame Impala song yet.

Unfortunately, not all of “The Slow Rush” is just as perfect. The album’s closer, “One More Hour,” pummels the listener with swells of heavy guitar, bass, drums and synths for most of the song, teasing at a potentially mind-blowing resolution.

Then the track completely abandons its dramatic palette, switching to a subdued and psychedelic outro before fading away. This botched climax leaves the album frustratingly incomplete.

However, “The Slow Rush” is a fantastic step forward for Tame Impala, showing the world that Kevin Parker still has plenty of stunning tricks up his sleeve.

Bricker’s Bops, where our executive producer John Bricker reviews the latest music, appears in the Spartan Daily every Tuesday.

Follow John on Twitter @JohnMichaelBr15